GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:677
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006
SATELLITE RADIO BROADCASTING SERVICE
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government proposes to introduce Satellite Radio Broadcasting Service all over the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof including the policy of the Government in this regard;

(c) Whether a number of private sector companies have shown their interest in it; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a) to (d) : Presently, All India Radio is providing 20 satellite channels in Ku-Band on Direct to Home (DTH) platform. Signals can be received with the help of a small sized dish antenna and a set top box. Also, All India Radio has proposed experimental satellite broadcasting in portable and mobile mode during 11th Plan. However, its implementation is subject to approval and availability of funds.

M/s World Space is providing Satellite Service on the basis of approval of Foreign Investment and Promotion Board under Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion since 2000. TRAI's recommendations on Satellite Radio and participation by private companies are being evaluated for adoption.